



The winner Frank Ullrich, GDR (centre), followed by Erik Kvistad, Norway (right), and in third place Terje Krokstad, Norway (left).



President comments on championship

The world biathlon championship at Ruhla, Finland, was brilliantly organized, and those involved in the preparations deserve gold medals, Sven Thofelt, Sweden, President of the International Modern Pentathlon and Biathlon Union, told a TASS correspondent.

According to him, biathlon is gaining in popularity, one indication of this was Austreli's participation in the championship.

He also noted that no surprises have occurred so far and predicted that now before the beginning of almost any major international meeting the tone would be set by the GDR, the USSR, Norway and Finland; however, other countries are

gradually catching up. Though Frank Ullrich, GDR, currently dominates the sport, I believe that the Soviet Olympic champion Alexander Tikhonov is the top biathlete of all time, commented Thofelt.

Ullrich won the 20 km race with four firing trials in top form, clocking 1 hr 07 min 17 sec and picking up only penalty minutes. Altogether 72 entrants from 19 countries were taking part.

Viktor Semyonov, the top Soviet entrant, finished up in seventh place. Frank Ullrich, 24, now holds 11 titles from junior and senior world championships, as well as one gold, two silver and one bronze Olympic awards.

SOVIET YACHTSMEN A SUCCESS IN CANNES

The USSR performed well at the recent Cannes sailing regatta, winning two classes and taking several more awards.

Sergei Khorevsky, Minsk, triumphed in the Finn class, and Alexander Shipilov and Yuri Bandenisev won in the Flying Dutchman class, with two other Soviet

crews in second and third places. Nikolai Kravchenko came second in the widgeon regatta, followed by two more Soviet entrants, and the Yevgeny Kudryovtsev crew made a similar showing in the Soling competition. Dmitry Beryozkin and Igor Kuznetsov came home third in the 470 class.

CELEBRATED PILOT COMMEMORATED

A team sponsored by the First Bearing-Making Plant in Moscow have won the Valery Chkalov memorial, a team event held for the 41st time. The event is named after Valery Chkalov, a renowned Soviet pilot, who in 1937 flew

from the Soviet Union to America via the North Pole. Moscow's Engineering Physics Institute team came second and the Central Army Club third. The entrants competed on the frozen Muksva River of Krynitzkoye.

SWEDES DEFEATED

The Soviet Union won the 8th "Sovetskaya Rossiya" international hockey tournament by beating the Swedish world champions, 4-1, in the closing game, their fifth such triumph to date. The USSR dominated throughout. Sweden were placed second, and Finland third, after beating Norway, 5-0.

'REHEARSAL' COMING TO A CLOSE

The USSR men's handball side is winding up preparation for the World Championship due in the FRG on February 22-March 7. In January the Soviet team—led by champion's silver medalist—looked on many of its future opponents in a range of tournaments in the FRG and Spain, before leaving for the FRG the team will play some international games in Iceland.

Their first World Championship game on February 23 will be against Czechoslovakia. Next day they will play Kuwait, and on February 20, the FRG. The three top teams in each group (there are altogether four groups) will play the two semi-final tournaments between February 28 and March 4. The winners will clash in the final game on March 7, while the second-placed teams will vie for the bronze awards.

FOOTBALL PAGEANT DRAWING CLOSER

To their another friendly in Spain the USSR drew, 2-2, with a side comprised of Real and Castilla players, Madrid. The Spaniards led, 2-0, well into the second half when Blokhin and Buryak equalized in the 85th and 87th minute.

Among the 80,000-strong crowd at Madrid's Santiago Bernabé stadium was Tele Sanlaan, head coach of Brazil, pitted against the USSR in a World Cup final group.



The national men's volleyball championship has resumed in Moscow and Voroshilovgrad after a short break, with the Moscow stage drawing the most interest, featuring the six top clubs. In the photo: the Central Army Club meeting the Binnian Higher Technical School team.

Photo by Yuri Todor

FOLLOWING THE GUERRILLA ROUTE

Over 5,000 contestants entered a cross-country skiing race, the largest such event yet seen in Czechoslovakia. The race took place in the Central Slovakia, which was the centre of an anti-fascist Slovak national uprising during World War II.

The 55 km itinerary followed the old guerrilla routes in the town of Kremnica to the region's centre Oanska-Bystrica.

SARAJEVO GEARING UP

The first issue of the press bulletin has been published by the 1984 Sarajevo 14th Winter Olympics Organizing Committee. This weekly bulletin will come out every Wednesday, and if the demand presents itself, it will become a daily.

OF INTEREST

THE SHORTEST BOUT IN JAPANESE BOXING

For fifteen years, the record shortest bout in the history of Japanese boxing was held by Shogenori Arisawa, who on October 2, 1968, knocked down his opponent in 13 seconds. Not long ago this record was broken by a feather-weight boxer Toshiro Oki who ended his fight in 12 seconds.

By air - from Moscow

Round the Soviet Union

THE FIRST SECONDARY SCHOOL SPECIALIZING IN THE ARTS HAS OPENED IN YEREVAN, THE CAPITAL OF ARMENIA. Similar educational establishments are opening on the heels of art and music schools in all the republic's cities and district centres. Today, over 150,000 children study in 143 music and art schools in the republic.

THE FIRST HIGH-ALTITUDE LEMON ORCHARD IN

AZERBAIJAN HAS BEEN PLANTED IN THE TALYSHSKY MTS AT 1,000 M ABOVE SEA LEVEL. The lemons will be grown in trenches on wastelands or land unsuitable for growing other crops. This is the first time such a method has been employed in mountainous terrain.

THE PRACTICALLY INACCESSIBLE AREAS OF DZHUZH-GARSKI ALA-TAU MTS IN SOUTH-EAST KAZAKHSTAN HAPPENED TO BE A RICH "GALLERY" OF STONE AGE ART. The Semirechensk archaeological expedition from the Republican Academy of Sciences discovered here some 2,000 cliff drawings.

INFORMATION

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Havana forum in progress

Havana. We see our future in the consolidation of the socialist state, improvement of socialist democracy and the stabilizing of our economy, the head of the Polish delegation, Eugeniusz Mielnicki, told the 10th World Trade Union Congress here. The accomplishment of the great task of building a socialist Poland is being undertaken by the working people, he stressed. The Polish people are totally opposed to the blockade and economic sanctions aimed at aggravating the situation of our working people. We declare at this forum, Mielnicki pointed out, that Poland has always been and will remain as a firm link in the community of socialist nations. Aware of the bitter experience of the past, he said, we will safeguard our alliance with the Soviet Union to the best of our ability. We want to express our sincere gratitude for the fa-

(Continued on page 2)



The Russian Winter festival parade.

Photos by Valery Zaitsev

Farewell to Russian winter

Days of retreating cold air and the spring sun, the sounds of music and dancing bells resounding from Russian folkies, are just a few features of the festival at the Blits Sports Complex outside Moscow marking the end of the Russian winter.

This festival continues into the 20th century since time immemorial and forms part of the solar ritual, hence the tradition of making pancakes on this day, resembling the sun's shape and colour.

The festival includes games, merry-making, round dances, competitions and performances by circus and variety groups. You can judge the festival's scale by the fact that over 2,000 performers are busy entertaining the audiences at once.

Billing samovars of tea amidst mouth-watering delicacies crown the tables lining the streets; just help yourself!

Sweden advocates a nuclear-free zone

Stockholm. The Swedish Foreign Minister, O. Ullsten, has favoured measures aimed at achieving disarmament. It is vitally important to urgently resume Soviet-American talks on limiting strategic offensive arms and reducing nuclear stockpiles. Sweden advocates efforts to create a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe, he said, and to ultimately eliminate all nuclear arms on the continent.

FACTS and EVENTS

● The Foreign Minister of Panama, Jorge Illera, has urged his government to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

● The FRG will not allow the USA to deploy its new chemical weapons in the country. E. Bahr, a prominent member in the Social Democratic Party of Germany, told the Norddeutscher Rundfunk radio station.

South Korea starts war games

Tokyo. The extensive US-South Korean "Team Spirit 82" war manoeuvres have just commenced in South Korea and involve 100,000 South Korean troops and 40,000 US expeditionary corps.

Tokyo. Reuters-TASS. According to the North Korean news agency, North Korea has denounced a 10 week joint military exercise by US and South Korean troops, calling it a test war to provoke a new conflict on the divided peninsula. (Continued on page 2)

WASHINGTON CAUGHT OUT



Thousands of Salvadorans live under the sights of the US supervised jungle troops. Photo from "Neue Deutschland"

Washington. American advisers are directly involved in terror operations performed by the blood-thirsty junta in El Salvador.

The Cable News Network recently screened a film shot by its reporters revealing several US advisors in a combat area in eastern El Salvador carrying M-16 automatic rifles, large-calibre pistols and hand grenades.

When urgently shipping a contingent of US advisors to aid the junta early last year, the Reagan administration assured its public they were forbidden apart from taking part in military operations, even to carry combat weapons.

The network's disclosure embarrassed the Washington administration, and according to the ABC, Reagan hastened to claim that the advisers were armed only for their personal protection and that he had ordered an inquiry into the matter.



Jean-Loup Chrétien (left) and Patrick Baudry, the two French astronauts, continue their preparations for the joint Soviet-French space flight. (See page 5)

Awards to staff members of 'Soviet Weekly'

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has issued a decree awarding orders and medals in four British subjects staff members of the "Soviet Weekly" newspaper published in London. The awards are made for productive work aimed at the development and strengthening of friendship, mutual understanding and cooperation between the peoples of

the Soviet Union and Great Britain and in connection with the 40th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of "Soviet Weekly". The names of the four award-winners are as follows: Alfred Hastings, awarded the Order of Friendship Among Peoples; Alison Elliot and Iris Smith—the Order of Badge of Honour; and Alice Cox—the Medal for Labour Valour.



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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "MN Information" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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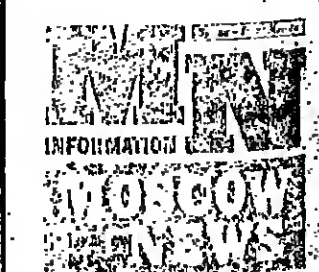
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EUROPEANS FAVOUR DIALOGUE

Brussels. Europeans are convinced of the need to continue dialogue. It is stated in a declaration put out by the Secretary of the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation. Dialogue is particularly vital, the declaration continues, in times of crisis. The problems now under review in Madrid and the new proposals, notably on the need for a disarmament conference in Europe, are essential if a nuclear conflict on this conti-

nent is to be avoided. If the Madrid conference were to fail to achieve positive results after more than a year's work and if the delegates were to part having reached no constructive conclusions despite the fact that they have at their disposal proposals for all the "baskets" of the Helsinki Final Act on which agreement has been reached, the public would not understand, it is said in the declaration.

REALISTIC PROPOSALS BY AFGHANISTAN

New York. Afghanistan's Ambassador to the UN M. Farid Ziaee has sent a letter to the UN Secretary-General stressing that mounting armed encroachments from Pakistan territory are escalating tensions and threatening peace in the area. The military regime in Pakistan, the letter charges, is fully responsible for this state of affairs.

The letter further points out that the Afghan government proposals of May 14, 1980 and August 24, 1981 are realistic and flexible, taking full account of the interests of all sides. It is to be regretted, the letter

continues, that the Pakistani authorities refused to enter negotiations on this basis.

In our opinion, the letter stresses, the contacts between Afghanistan and Pakistan making use of facilities provided by the UN Secretary-General were useful, and we are ready to urgently continue such contacts at any place and without any preconditions. The government of Afghanistan is ready to talk either on a bilateral basis, which is preferable and more promising, or for triplicate talks if the government of Iran is ready to join them, concludes the letter.

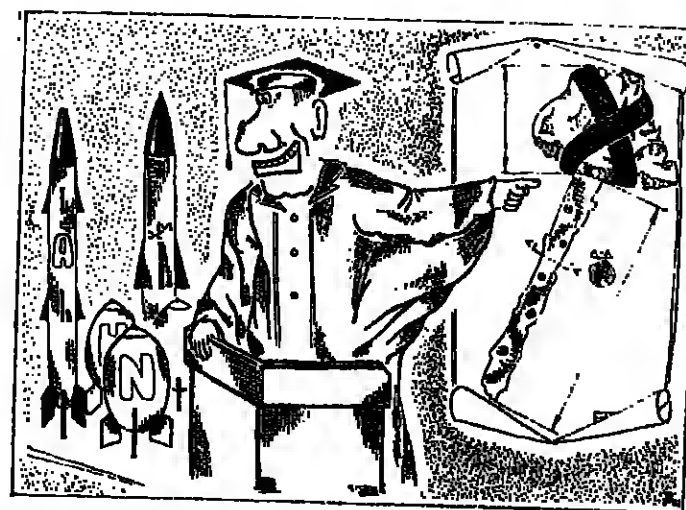
NO LET-UP IN PEKING'S TERRITORIAL CLAIMS

Delhi. UNI-TASS. China is stepping up military preparations which threaten India's security and territorial integrity. At the present time, Peking has around 500,000 troops stationed in Tibet, with most of the army units being concentrated on the borders with India.

Intensive military construction is afoot in some parts of Tibet—strategic roads, runways and radar stations are being built and communications lines

set up. Nine military airfields are already in operation, and some 15 radar stations and rocket launchers have been established in three regions.

The Chinese leaders continue openly to lay claim to parts of India and other states, using their pet ploy of publishing "history" maps showing Nepal, Butan, and parts of India, Burma, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea as "China's lost territories".



War... want even further. This is a prototype of the chief weapon to be used in World War 4. Drawing by Dmitry Varshinov

MILITARISTIC PROGRAMME UNDER FIRE

Washington. The Reagan administration's 1983 Federal budget draft is causing increasing opposition in Congress.

R. Dole, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, claimed the budget's deficit of \$1,500 million dollars must be reduced at all costs, including at the expense of the 263,000 million dollar military allocations. Republican Senator D. Durenburger suggested scrapping nine military programmes over the next few years, including the development of submarine cruise missiles, the strengthening of

the Minuteman and Titan missile aforesaid to meet the requirements of MX intercontinental ballistic missiles, and the production of F-18 fighter-bombers. We cannot afford such a destructive deficit, if the 1983 budget is put into effect the entire country's economy will suffer, and attempts to combat unemployment will be undermined, former President Carter told newsmen in Nashville, Tennessee. Reaganomics is possibly the most serious economic mistake our country has ever made, he stressed.

SITUATION IN CHAD

Paris. AFP-TASS. The transitional government of national unity in Chad has rejected proposals put forward by a special committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for a settlement in Chad. The implementation of the resolution taken by this committee at its meeting in Nairobi, according to a Chad government communiqué issued in Ndjamena, would signify a return to the destructive war in the country. As is known, the OAU special committee announced that the pan-African peace-keeping force would be withdrawn from

Chad provided the Chad government continued immediate talks with the former defence minister, Habre. The resolution also called for an end to hostilities beginning February 28, drawing up a provisional constitution, and holding parliamentary and presidential elections.

The transitional government refused to negotiate with the rebels. The communiqué stresses that the government is planning free democratic elections only when political, military and organizational conditions are suitable.

Libya won't toe the line

Tripoli. No manoeuvres by the USA and reactionary forces will deter Libya from its struggle against American imperialism and against America's henchmen, Israel, and for the freedom and happiness of oppressed peoples, the Libyan leader M. el-Gaddafi told representatives from elements of the American administration called to compel the Libyans people to toe the line, following a policy that refuses to support the national liberation movements and the Arab people of Palestine. To achieve these designs the USA employed political pressure, recalled its specialists and stopped oil imports from Libya.

HAVANA FORUM IN PROGRESS

(Continued from page 1)

ternational internationalist assistance by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The World Peace Council President Ramesh Chandra, an honorary guest of the forum, claimed that if the working people united to combat imperialism, they could defeat their principal enemy—imperialism. He further exposed the US president's dangerous talk of the possibility of a "limited" nuclear war in Europe.

Recent economic moves in Ghana

Accra. The Provisional council for national defence in Ghana has established a committee primarily designed to review the country's economic state. The council will revise the 1981-82 fiscal budget adopted by the former government, suggest measures to correct inflation, and present recommendations for closing the balance of payments deficit.

SOUTH KOREA

STARTS WAR GAMES

(Continued from page 1)

A North Korean foreign ministry spokesman was quoted as saying that the exercises, "Korean Spirit-82", had North Korea as the target of its attack and that it was a "wanton violation of the Korean armistice agreement" and should stop immediately.

TRADE UNION MOVEMENT THREATENED IN TURKEY

Havana. Komal Dalsal, Secretary of the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions of Turkey (DİSK) has urged the world public to take all possible measures to save the lives of 52 DİSK leaders and activists subject to court action.

It was due to Washington's backing, he told a press conference here, that the bourgeoisie and the imperialist reaction force in Turkey were responsible for the massive repression measures taken against the Turkish trade union movement.

Despite promises by the authorities to deliver the country out of its deep crisis, life for the majority of the population has got improved in the slightest, Dalsal emphasized. The number of unemployed has reached the 6,000,000 mark; inflation is accelerating ahead at 40 per cent a year, and foreign debt now totals 23,000 million dollars.

FACTS and EVENTS

○ The European Communities Commission has released statistics showing that by comparison with last year industrial production in the ten EEC countries dropped by 2.5 per cent, while the number of unemployed has shot up to 10.3 million, and the rate of inflation stands at 12.7 per cent.

○ A decision to launch into the production of a spy satellite has been taken by a special Space Exploration Commission set up by the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party in Japan. The satellite is designed to photograph Soviet military installations in the Far East.

○ Britain built less housing in 1981 than in any other year in the past 60 years, while some 1,500 companies went bankrupt.

○ Four military-political alliances in Guatemala—the organization of armed people, the guerrilla army of the poor, the rebel armed forces and the revolutionary armed forces of the Guatemalan Party of Labour—have announced the creation of a front of national patriotic unity. It is stressed in their joint communiqué that the need for joint action stems from the deteriorating situation in Central America, including that in Guatemala.

Poland and Hungary reject external interference

Warsaw. Poland and Hungary vigorously denounced the actions taken by the US administration and some other Western nations, which blatantly violate the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act provisions, stressing a joint communiqué regarding the talks between J. Ceyrek, Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the visiting Hungarian Foreign Minister, F. Pula.

The current campaign in the West against the USSR, Poland and other socialist countries, the document emphasizes, is a violation of the principles of peaceful coexistence among socially differing states and jeopardizes détente and peace in Europe.

The ministers also discussed continued bilateral political, economic, scientific and technical cooperation. The document, further stressed the sides, will consistently take necessary measures to neutralize the financial and economic discriminatory moves by the USA and other Western nations directed against Poland and other socialist countries.

PEOPLE

Joseph Canzari, deputy assistant to the US president, has been forced to resign over a scandal involving fraud and abuse of power.

The scandal broke out following reports that Canzari had received several hundred thousand dollars from the Rockefeller family of exceptionally low interest to buy a luxury mansion in Washington. It also came to light that he was not once married, but had a "one-night stand" with a woman, "compensation" for a business trip, presiding over expenses simultaneously both to the White House and the Republican Party national committee.



In addition to constructing new warships and submarines, the Pentagon has embarked on the modernization project of its extensive ships employed during the Vietnam war period. For instance, the "New Jersey" battleship is now being upgraded at the Long Beach shipyard. It will carry Tomahawk and Harpoon missile launchers, cruise missiles and launching space for Harrier jump-jet fighter-bombers. The battleship will sail to the Indian Ocean intending to keep a hawk-like eye upon the Persian Gulf states, which the USA has included in its sphere of "vital interest".

Photo AP-TASS

NEW POSITIONING GROUND FOR THE USA IN AFRICA

New York. AP-TASS. The USA has started repairing the Kenyan port of Mombasa on the Indian Ocean. The port will be deepened, expanded and the coral reefs cleared. Modernization of the Mombasa airport and the construction of ammunition depots and warehouses at the naval base is also in progress.

The reasoning behind such projects is Washington's belief that Mombasa might prove a useful stronghold during emer-

gencies in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. The port could be used in the Pentagon's joint operations with Israel and South Africa against the Arab and African nations who conduct independent policies.

Mombasa is already intensively used by the USA and other Western navies. January alone its visitors included 15 American, British and French warships stationed in the Indian Ocean, among them the US Constellation aircraft carrier.

Science and technology

'ELDERLY' FISH ONLY

Only large fish are now being caught in the Great Lakes of the USA and Canada, reports the "Frankfurter Rundschau" newspaper. But the ecologists are of the opinion that the growth acceleration of fish in the Great Lakes to unfavourable ecological changes. This was discussed at the conference of ichthyologists in Toronto (Canada). It is predicted that the same phenomena will happen to the European countries, above all, in Scandinavia. The possible reason for such changes is a high content of acids in rain.

As interesting feature is that the Canadians are catching mainly "elderly" fish. The scientists assume that this is a sign that the small fry cannot survive the new, grimmer ecological conditions.

A LOW-NOISE TRACTOR

At a recent Vienna show a tractor was showcased by a tractor which is virtually noiseless, at least one can easily

speak in its vicinity. Professor Katzda, the inventor of this highly effective noise damping system, believes that 100 tractors equipped with his system produce no more noise than a single conventional tractor. Such tractors could become a real peace as, according to the Austrian Ministry of Public Health, every other Austrian suffers from cardiovascular and other disorders caused by noise overload.

AN ELECTRIC BUS: PROS AND CONS

The first ever electric bus is now playing the streets of the French town of Tours. It is powered by a storage battery consisting of 27 accumulators. The bus carries for 25 passengers and attains a speed of up to 50 kilometres per hour. Despite a number of advantages, its disadvantages are also significant as its battery weighs a tonne and is enough to cover only 50 kilometres without recharging. In addition its operation costs 20 per cent more than that of any conventional bus.

OF INTEREST

An unusual 'janitor'

An unusual "janitor", a fly made worker at the entrance gate of a pulp-and-paper combine of Jomansu in Eastern Finland. Contrary to the common idea of her aggressive temperament, the fly reacts quietly to the presence of people. This unusual friendship took more time to develop. At first the workers were quite apprehensive of the beast's arrival, as it was attracted by the food smells from the dining room and the warmth generated by the radiators. Gradually the fly adjusted to the new surroundings and her

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

VIETNAM'S CONSISTENT POSITION

Peking is obstinately ignoring the remarkable and lasting changes which have occurred in Indochina in the past few years, writes IZVESTIA.

The Chinese rulers seem to be thinking in the past, when China sought to undermine other nations through its military might. But times are changing, stresses the paper, as are relationships between nations. The sovereign Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, who have cast off the feudal yoke and defeated their national independence, are now building a new life, and no amount of pressure, blackmail and intimidation will cease these advances. Respect for human rights and the freedom of individual is an element of international relations, and China's leaders should long have awakened to this fact. Vietnam's fresh initiatives envisaging an end to armed clashes on the Vietnamese-Chinese border and resumption of bilateral talks unilaterally suspended by Peking in March 1980 form just one example of Vietnam's consistent and correct policies aimed at normalizing bilateral relations. It Peking accepted this and renounced expansionist policies in the region and support for the reactionary forces dreaming of reversing objective historical processes under way in South-East Asia this would significantly improve the international climate in Asia.

WASHINGTON'S NEW SON MY

Another American son my, this time not in Vietnam but in El Salvador, has nice recent US history, writes Vitaly Kobyls in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. Let no one be confused by the fact, he stresses, that a thousand old men, women and children from the Mozala village in the Morazan department on the border with Honduras were atrociously murdered and even burnt alive by vile thugs from the Atlacatl special battalion directed by the Salvadoran military junta—therefore indirectly murdered by the Americans.

The USA is not only conniving in this genocide, the paper further points out, but is actively responsible for ordering it. To prevent El Salvador following Nicaragua's suit and to protect the "zone of US vital interests" in the region, president Reagan appropriated another 53,000,000 dollars of military aid to the junta in El Salvador.

Washington is truly committed, the paper contends, to fight hero and elsewhere for its "vital interests" in the last drop of someone else's blood.

AMBITIONS OF LATTER-DAY SAMURAI

Japan's military expenditure in 1970 increased 14.2-fold as compared with 1960. Only a few capitalist countries can boast of a comparable growth in military expenditure, writes the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper.

Analysis of the policy being pursued by the Japanese leaders, the newspaper asserts, brings to mind the activities of the Japanese samurai on the eve of the Second World War. Of note is the fact that in the middle of 1980, for the first time in the post-war period, all members of the Japanese cabinet, with Zenko Suzuki at its head, made a demonstrative pilgrimage to the Yasukuni temple in Tokyo where plaques are on display giving the names of the Japanese officers and men who lost their lives in battles for a greater Japan. These include the chief war criminals convicted by the International Military Tribunal in Tokyo. What the ministers discussed with their predecessors is unknown, but one gets the impression that the militarists of the 1940s must have instilled the present-day Japanese leaders with their heads, as the latter are gradually carrying out plans to revive Japan's former might.

THE CIA'S NEW WEAPON

According to the NEW TIMES weekly few people are aware of the sinister role played by the CIA in the distribution of narcotics. It is certainly impossible to count the number of victims who have died as a result of CIA efforts in this sphere.

Ever since its foundation 35 years ago, the CIA has shown great interest in the use of narcotics for professional purposes. The CIA continues to experiment in this field in secret. The desire to possess a powerful and terrifying means of controlling human behaviour stimulates the CIA to an independent search for the new narcotics. A broad network of research institutions and pharmaceutical firms is being used for this purpose. The agency has succeeded in developing a number of new narcotics, one of which, "B-3", crookes hallucinations ten times stronger than LSD.

By aiding and abetting the spread of drug addiction, the CIA rudely flouts the moral and legal standards accepted in civilized society today.

herald declared he would do anything for ice-cream.

The password is 'Moustache'

During the past four centuries the Bulgarian village of Govevda has been graced by a unique club. The 80 male members hold one major thing in common: moustaches. The club possesses its own statute and holds a traditional festival celebrated every April. It is run by a board, its fund is taken from voluntary contributions by members. New members can join regardless of age and the length of their moustaches, although the Chairman, R. Khristov, sports the longest growth.

presence was accepted. She made the entrance-pole office her home, and makes only occasional forays into the nearby woods.

White crocodile

India's only white crocodile lives in a reservation in Orissa State. It is at least 10 years old and weighs over 50 kg, reports the "Hindustan Times" newspaper.

For the love of ice-cream

Bibi Ruwes, USA, took only four hours and 17 minutes to consume 44 kilos of ice-cream, on all-time record. Doctors pronounced Bibi ill after her enormous eating feat, said Bibi

VIEWPOINT

New proposals—but goals remain unchanged

The Western press is widely advertising the "new" proposals for a settlement of the Namibian issue drawn up by the "contact group" consisting of the USA, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada. The "steag-stage" plan, based on an American draft, is being described as a representative of the interests of all parties and as the only effective means towards an early solution of the Namibian problem.

Even a cursory glance of these proposals, recently published in the Namibian "Windhoek Observer", however, reveals that just the opposite is the case. The last stage of the plan envisages the formulation of constitutional principles, the second—a decision on the composition and deployment of UN troops, and the third—the drawing up of a timetable for an

end to the hostilities, the withdrawal of the South Africa occupation forces and the holding of general elections. It is clear that the plan runs counter to the fundamental UN document on Namibia (Security Council Resolution No. 435) which has, as its first stage, a ceasefire in Namibia and the holding of general elections under UN supervision, to be followed by the creation of a constituent assembly and the adoption of a constitution.

The "contact group" proposals, therefore, are an obvious attempt to delay giving independence to Namibia and to provide the South Africa regime with a respite to "settle" the Namibian problem in line with the Pretoria scenario, i.e. place their puppets in power in Windhoek.

In the past few years the

Valentin KUNIN



leg. no more no less, that they be recognized alongside SWAPO, as the legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Affirming that the UN is biased in refusing to meet their demands, the Namibian puppets refuse if any part in the settlement process, as was made clear the other day by K. Pretorius, chairman of the domestic Nationalist Party of South-West Africa. His statement was quite revealing—the South African press has been intimating it might be a good idea to set up international armed forces to supervise elections in Namibia made up of troops provided by "contact group" members, primarily the USA—which in effect means placing the settlement in Namibia under direct Western control. A question is in order: who empowered Washington and its allies to decide the future of the people in Namibia?

The cynical stand taken by the West on the Namibian issue and its attempts to isolate SWAPO and its supporters on the country are being rebuffed by the SWAPO and the whole of independent Africa. SWAPO President Sam Nujoma has repeatedly stressed that the provision of independence to Namibia should be in strict compliance with UN Resolution No. 435. If not SWAPO will wage an armed struggle until final victory.

With such encouragement, Mudge and Co. are becoming progressively cheeky, demand-

Round the Soviet Union

● ONE CAN NOW TRAVEL FROM THE GEORGIAN TOWN OF SIGNAKI TO THE TOWN OF TSORI BY AIR, HOWEVER PLANE ARE NOT NEEDED, INSTEAD A COLE CAR ROLLS NEARLY 4,500 m long has spily lilled the hill. The mountain is close to each other, but communication between them was often disrupted by avalanches and mudslides. More than 150 such routes have now been built in different mountain regions of the USSR.

● THE YOUNGEST WINNER OF A GOVERNMENT AWARD IN ESTONIA IS 12-YEAR-OLD EVEN MÄGIMETS, A 6TH-FORM PUPIL AT SAARE SECONDARY SCHOOL. He received a medal "For Courage Shown in a Fire". Moving returned home from school the boy noticed smoke coming from a neighbouring flat. He knocked on the door and heard frightened children's voices. Even got hold of a ladder and helped a girl and two boys escape via a high window. He then telephoned to a neighbouring fire station, and the fireman arrived to put out the fire.

● A FACTORY IN NUKUS MAKING YURTAS (TENTS) FOR SHEPHERDS HAS DISPATCHED A LARGE CONJUNCTION OF THEM TO SHEPHERDS, GEOLOGISTS AND PROSPECTORS WORKING IN CENTRAL ASIA AND KAZAKHSTAN. Karakalpak yurtas are warm, cosy and fairly big—about the same size as an urban 33 sq m apartment. They are put together, according to tradition, without a single nail.

● A FORESTRY MUSEUM HAS OPENED AT THE KAZLU RUDA TIMBER FELLERS — IN LITHUANIA. It was established by the members of the Society for the Protection of Nature, who have collected exhibits illustrating the flora and fauna enriching programme now under way in Lithuania. At present forests and parks cover one-third of the republic's territory. Special displays are dedicated to the foresters, who actively cooperate with scientists, and to the activities of young nature enthusiasts.

CITY IN THE POLAR REGION

Murmansk, the world's largest city north of Arctic Circle, is situated in the European part of the USSR on the eastern shore of the Kola Gulf in the Barents Sea.

It is popularly known as the country's northern gateway, since the ice-free port is visited



Murmansk child architect Alexander Popov, in 1981 alone 200 thousand sq metres of housing was built in Murmansk.

The uses of ultrasound

The reliability of concrete structures is readily assessed through the use of ultrasonic technology developed and manufactured in Kishinev, the capital of Moldavia.

A special digital printer issues a reliability certificate for every construction concrete unit, after they have been subjected to ultrasonic analysis and the results have been recorded onto a punch tape. A computer can reveal the causes of flaws in the mass produced concrete parts and will introduce appropriate corrections into the process.

The new device is capable of checking dams, bridges, basements and buildings.



A view of the Murmansk Fishing Port.

by hundreds of Soviet and foreign ships. Annually it handles several million tonnes of freight and is known as a fishing and shipbuilding centre. Convoys of cargo ships set sail from here to various Arctic destinations, following in the wake of the nuclear icebreakers "Sibir" and "Lenin".

Murmansk is also the cultural and research centre of the region, boasting of a drama theatre, this country's northernmost TV centre, navigation schools and a pedagogical institute. The N. Kuznetsov Polar research and design marine fishing and oceanography institute in Murmansk is very prominent in its field. The city's population is mostly made up of sailors, fishermen and shipping maintenance workers.

SUPER TYRES

The assembly of a machine complex designed to produce the country's largest tyres for the powerful BelAZ tip-up lorries has begun at the experimental factory at the scientific research institute in the Ukrainian city of Dnepropetrovsk.

These tyres are designed especially for lorries that transport up to 180 tonnes of cargo. The diameter of the wheel is 3.5 metres.

The first samples of such tyres have been tested over thousands of kilometres along the rough roads of an iron-ore quarry. They were attached to the first Soviet 180-tonne tip-up lorry, which is capable of loading three railway wagons on every run.

SUBTERRANEAN HEAT TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY

A subterranean sea heated to a temperature of 180°C was discovered at a depth of 4.5 km and metres near the settlement of Kaysayta, in the Stavropol Territory. The first six wells have been sunk ensuring the efficient operation of a geothermal station, which is to be completed by 1985.

Its power is only 10 thousand kilowatts, yet its experience will prove invaluable for further construction, since the amount of hot water in the Stavropol Territory alone is enough to warrant the construction of several stations with a total power of over a million kilowatts.

The coal of Karakan

The full-scale development of the Karakan deposit, one of the most promising in the Kuznetsk coal basin (Western Siberia), has commenced.

In the vast lagoon left by an ancient sea, nature has accumulated 52 coal seams, whose total reserves are estimated at 3,000 million tonnes.

The first stage of the Karakan-1-2 pit was planned for 1984. However, the miners proposed that construction should be conducted by areas, therefore a large section was opened ahead of time.

The first trainload of Karakan coal has already been dispatched to consumers. More than 210,000 tonnes of high-quality coal fuel is expected to be extracted from the deposit this year.

Cable laying in freezing temperatures

A shop repairing construction machinery, in Komsomolsk-on-Amur, has developed a new cable-laying truck designed to weather the harsh winters. A one-member crew can lay as much as five kilometres of cable in a shift operating the machine from inside the cabin.

Equipment for testing pipelines

The Leningrad-based Zvezda firm has started the production of filling stations which can pump a thousand cubic metres of water under high pressure into a pipeline. These stations are intended for testing the strength of cross-country large-diameter pipelines moving oil and gas from Western Siberia to the industrial regions of the Soviet Union and abroad.

First such stations were themselves successfully tested during the construction of the more than 5,000-kilometre-long Surgut-Poborsk pipeline. The capacity of the stations and the level of automation are 50 per cent higher than those of the heat similar stations now in use around the world.

A club that deserves to be proud of itself

A "jewel" of an exhibition would be an accurate description of the display which has opened in the Urals Geological Museum in the city of Sverdlovsk. The Jasper and agate, rock crystal and semi-precious stones on show glitter and sparkle in all their glory. These stones which would do credit to any geological expedition have been discovered not by professional prospectors but by enthusiasts from a rock collectors club.

The club is attached to the museum and the Regional Council of the All-Russia Society for the Protection of Nature. Its 150 members belong to all age groups and professions, including engineers, musicians, teachers and industrial workers.

Every Thursday they meet in the lecture room of the Prospecting Department of the Sverdlovsk University. Here they listen to lectures on mineralogy and petrography, discuss their forthcoming summer travels and exchange collection pieces. Private selling of collection pieces is prohibited by Club Rules; a rock sample or a collection can only be sold to a museum.

Many members go beyond collecting as they turn their hand to rock carving. There are exquisite tholonic boxes glimmering under the glass of the showcases, and original souvenirs and compositions executed from Jasper, Ilavite, and other semi-precious stones.

Science and technology

ALUMINA REPLACES BONE TISSUES

Specialists from the Kharkov Institute of Refractory Materials have suggested the use of corundum ceramics to replace bone tissue. Artificial bones made of this material are easily absorbed by the organism and have practically unlimited life.

The ceramics is made of alumina fired at high temperature. It is chemically very pure and features a fine crystalline structure. Surgeons from Kharkov have already used it in more than a hundred successful operations.

The search for new ceramic replacements continues.

THRILLING PLOTS OF ELECTRONIC CINEMA

A film shot for only a second at a laboratory in Novosibirsk has initiated a new trend in research: it tells us about the life of atoms in a crystal.

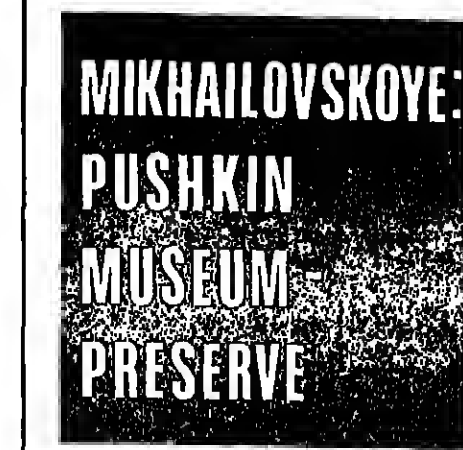
Scientists at the Siberian branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences have decided to replace X-ray tubes, which can only depict static atomic structures, by synchronous radiation, a thousand times brighter, obtainable in accelerators.

"Illumination" on this scale

DANCE, THE HEALER

At Gagra, a popular Black Sea resort in Abkhazia, the conventional "Dance Troupe" poster has been replaced by colourful advertisements reading "Dance Your Way to Health".

Dancing is a new type of medical treatment practised at this resort. As a variation of motion therapy it helps in the treatment of hypodynamia, resulting in various cardiovascular



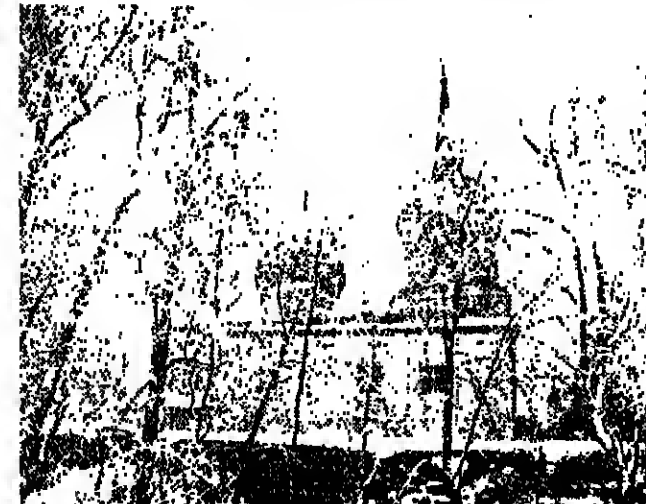
The monument to Pushkin in Pushkineskiye Gory by the sculptor Yelene Belashova.

This February marked the 145th anniversary of Alexander Pushkin's tragic death in a duel. Today thousands of people visit Mikhailovskoye, formerly Pushkin's estate (situated near the ancient Russian town of Pskov), which has now been made into a state preserve.

In Mikhailovskoye, as one of Pushkin's friends aptly put it, the poet "found the culture and material for his inventions which are so natural and true and so consonant with the prosa and poetry of Russian rural life". Working on "Eugene Onegin" in Mikhailovskoye, Pushkin confessed: "A better place for my poetical novel cannot even be desired."

In tranquil Mikhailovskoye Pushkin conceived and wrote the popular drama in verse, "Boris Godunov", the third and fourth chapters of "Eugene Onegin" (and began work on its seventh chapter), as well as many verses, in fact a total of over 100 works.

All that is related to the life and works of this great son of Russia is carefully treasured and maintained in the preserve.



The Assumption Cathedral of the Svyatogorsk Monastery, where the walls Alexander Pushkin is buried.

FRENCH COSMONAUTS PREPARE FOR SPACE MISSION

Preparations for another international Soviet-French space mission are in progress at Stelir Township, near Moscow.

The French pilots Jean-Loup Christen and Patrick Baudry together with the Soviet cosmonauts who make up the two crews, have already completed their "theoretical" training. According to Air Force Lieutenant-Colonel Vladimir Shatalov, head of the Soviet "cosmonauts" training programme, the crew members have passed exams on the design of the orbital station and spacecraft. They have trained in "zero" gravity in a special flying laboratory and have practised leaving the craft after splash-down on the Black Sea.

At present, the cosmonauts have begun all-round training in a three-man Soyuz spacecraft simulator.

French flags now hang in the halls of the Soviet Union's International Space Academy, it is the 11th country to have this honour. Experiences accumulated at the academy made it possible to reduce the initial course of training for a space mission. Each new expedition, however, also means a new scientific programme involving time-consuming preparations. The Soviet-French crews have already begun work on these preparations. They have learnt now to use most of the scientific equipment at the Salyut stations.

At the French space research centre the two crews worked together with French researchers who prepared individual scientific experiments. Some changes have been made to the crew composition during training. Yuri Malyshev, the commander of the first crew who left the station, was replaced by Vladimir Dzhanibekov and very experienced in space missions Alexander Ivanchenkov continues to train as flight engineer. The second crew now at the final stage of training for the mission, scheduled for summer this year, remains unchanged and is made up as follows: Commander Leonid Kizim, flight engineer Vladimir Salovoyev, and French cosmonaut-researcher Patrick Baudry.

VIEWPOINT

THE MERITS OF TASHKENT FILM FESTIVAL

The 7th International Film Festival of Asian, African and Latin American Countries will be held from May 23 to June 3 in Tashkent, the capital of Soviet Uzbekistan. Its goals and distinguishing features are described by the festival's Director-General Abdulokhab Abdulloyev.

Tashkent film festivals, held every two years, date back to 1980 when the first festival was attended by delegations from 49 developing countries. Participating in the 1980 festival were 97 countries, international and national organisations, including 75 national cinemas of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The desire of film-makers from emerging states to participate in the Tashkent festival is not fortuitous: in Tashkent there are no rivals, no traditional film competitions, in other words no winners or losers. This is deliberate, making the international screen accessible to young national cinemas, still in their infancy, alongside experienced film-makers such as India or Japan.

It is not accidental therefore that Tashkent film festivals are known as festivals of discoveries. Tashkent was first to recognise Senegalese Ousmane, the Senegalese film director whose fame has reached far beyond the African continent. It was here also that Miral Sen, the famous director of the new Indian cinema, started his career. Sebastian Aiarcon from Chile, who later became a prize winner at the Moscow Film Festival for his feature film "Night Over Chile", showed his first documentary at Tashkent.

Tashkent festivals are ideal venues both for creative co-operations, reviews, disputes and discussions and for film laureates. In fact, the last festival produced co-productions and film exchanges between 86 countries. The Soviet Union and India, for example, agreed upon a joint full-length documentary about Jawaharlal Nehru. A cooperation project is now under way with Mexico: the feature film "Red Bells" directed by the well-known Soviet film-maker Sergei Bondarchuk. Talks are being conducted with Colombia on making a screen version of the novel "The Eagle" by Alfonso López Michelsen.

Tashkent-82 will present the widest ever programme of Soviet films dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Soviet Union. The programme is subdivided into individual shows of recent films: the best films made by national cinemas from the constituent republics; children's films; and, lastly, films dubbed to English, French and Spanish.

It has already become a tradition that the guests of the festival, in addition to their professional functions, be offered the opportunity to join a discussion. "The Role of the Cinema in the Struggle for Peace, Social Progress and the Freedom of Peoples", film directors, actors, cosmonauts, producers, specialists in the film industry from the three continents will also visit on exhibits and schools, factories and farms—short, they film here for themselves present-day Uzbekistan, a Soviet Capital Asian Republic.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

MODERNIZATION BOOSTS ECONOMY

New production capacities can be built and put into service 1.5-fold faster than today's rates, argues Alexei Demidov, First Vice-Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Construction, in the EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. To achieve this aim the emphasis must be placed on reconstruction and the updating of operating plants rather than building new ones.

The pay-off period in this case is three times shorter, and returns on investment increase 1.5-fold.

This is the reason why expenditure upon the modernization of operating projects in the next five years will increase by 21.2 per cent, the article stresses, with a parallel rise in the share in aggregate industrial construction outlays.

GROWTH IN EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

The POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYA magazine has published figures on the growth of the number of workers with a specialized secondary or higher education employed in the USSR economy.

The total number of gainfully employed in the economy now exceeds 150 million people. They consist mainly of people in the able-bodied category. The obligated in the USSR are about as follows: men aged between 16 and 59 and women aged between 16 and 55. In addition, Soviet labour resources include working people of more advanced age—women of over 55 and men of over 60, as well as working teenagers aged from 14 to 16. Whereas in 1939 only 13 persons had a higher education and 110 secondary (complete or incomplete) education per 1,000 employed, in 1981 the figures were 100 and 727 respectively.

The rise in the educational level of workers and col-

lective farmers has been particularly swift. For example, whereas the number of office employees with a higher or secondary (complete or incomplete) education per 1,000 increased by nearly 18-fold between 1939 and 1981 (from 546 to 984), there was a ninefold increase (from 87 to 787) among workers and a 35-fold increase (from 18 to 634) among collective farmers.

THE BOUNDS OF RESEARCH

There are now hundreds of thousands of research workers on this planet, writes Academician Viktor Ambartsumyan in the ZHURNALIST magazine. Many believe that the world is not as complex as it once seemed and that we are very close to grasping its natural laws. Very soon, now we shall know all the answers. According to this view, science has a future of only a hundred years at the current pace. Man will become omniscient, thus eliminating the need for fundamental research.

However, a larger group of scientists believe that their occupation of facts will be futile as more general understanding. Many of them nevertheless agree with the optimists predicting that fundamental research will soon be completed.

A third group of researchers, the article continues, believe that due to the enormous amount of data accumulated by contemporary science, revealing the extreme complexity of Nature there are always sure to be new discoveries. They will continue the search for them, where others have left off. Indeed, Ambartsumyan contends, we owe many spectacular breakthroughs to human perseverance and intuition.

I want to stress, the Academician continues, that any important new finding is not merely a fluke, but the result of deep processes involving the accumulation and processing of relevant information and its transfer from one person to another, with the accumulation of knowledge increasing of every successive step.

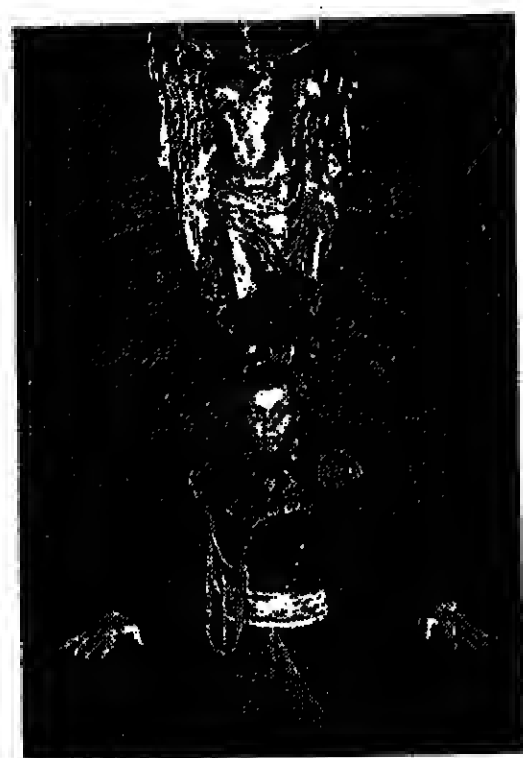
RUSSIAN LITERATURE AND HUMANITY

A burning love of the truth, the willingness to fight for social justice, the longing for brotherhood—such are the qualities that have, since time immemorial, been contained in the national soul. They concern all its main values and represent human existence at its highest level, thus writes Kirgiz author, Chingiz Aitmatov, in PRAVDA, discussing the traditions of Russian literature. It is the revolutionary and national element in their work that unites all great poets in time and space into a single plot of human beings, into a single, indissoluble poetic force, into one, endless universe. Poetry is a revolution of the soul. Poets span human existence like bridges. These are bridges made up of thoughts and soul. Bridges which link different generations, which link the world in the moral and philosophical problems common to the "single human host" or our planet bridges along which cultural values and knowledge accumulate, inspired by a deeply felt humanism.

To teach people humanity—surely this is literature's great task, above all that of Russian literature. It is this aspect which directed and continues to direct today our undying love.

I would take the following penultimate and sensitive words by Alexander Rodchenko, the 19th-century writer and democrat, as the epitaph to all pre-revolutionary Russian literature: "I looked around me and my soul was wounded by the human suffering I saw". From this time on, I believe, Russian literature has come down on the side of civil action and, adding itself increasingly as a platform for the struggle for humanity, has taken on a truly heroic role. "A single, but ardent passion", a burning desire for freedom has become its inspiration, its touchstone. In the final count it is this that is responsible for its dogmatic topicality—for the high and of times marvellous realism of Russian literature is above all an embodiment of the ideological maturity, and, in particular, of the values of friendship and brotherhood of nations.

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars



Nikolai KARACHENTSOV

Nikolai Karachentsov rose to theatrical prominence quite unexpectedly, following Moscow's Leninsky Komsomol Theatre's premiere of the "Thyl" musical. His success was easily explained—the theatre's rather long static existence ended when the new brilliantly gifted director Mark Zakharov joined the company. His artistic manner was unusually bold for the year 1973. The play abounded in light, sound, music and artistic effects, and was marked by the new approach of placing an unknown actor (who had incidentally played at the theatre for several years and never made a name for himself) at the centre of the action.

The credit to the adoption of this new "star" system goes to Mark Zakharov, whose approach to acting was disordered by many theatres during the initial stages. The idea of building up the action centred around one actor with the rest of the cast performing only supporting roles, never failed. The reason being that Zakharov never made a mistake in his choice of "stars", finding them to his own theatre or inviting new faces from other theatres. Karachentsov was his choice for the part of Thyl and this was not a simple task, but the discovery of a talented actor.

The maddest pace of "Thyl" was best suited to the actor's passionate manner both in real life and on stage. Karachentsov's Thyl was charged with overflowing energy as he sang, laughed, cried and jumped, all the while riveting the audience's attention, in awe and fascination.

That role only was enough to place Karachentsov among Moscow's acting elite.

It is hard to imagine him as a Don Juan although he is a hero, he is also a character hero. Karachentsov thus spoke of his manner: "My aim is to reveal man as he is, and I want to assert the good found in men by using both unusual and fantastic methods. I gravitate towards fantastic realism, yet the performance naturally must remain truthful whatever imagery is involved."

Recently the theatre mounted the poet Andrei Voznesensky's play "Yunona and Avos", and during each performance Karachentsov, true to form, goes all out.

Karachentsov has not appeared in many films (the cinema is great for one's popularity), but he is still snowed under with letters from female admirers and offers from directors. He is gifted with natural grace, and works on his body movements consciously and dully (my mother, a ballet teacher, is responsible for it, he argues). He himself eludes all his play and film roles, even though he lacks musical training and therefore daily puts in several hours doing respiratory exercises.

The racing pace of his life is reflection of our times, and due to the fact that Karachentsov keeps up with the age and its constant changes, this arguably forms his greatest attraction.

Vera ZHELTOVA

In the photo: Nikolai Karachentsov in the "Yunona and Avos" play. Photo by Valery Plotnikov

A CLASSIC REVIVED

The musical drama "Lohengrin" premiered recently by the Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre in Leningrad introduces one to the world of Wagner romanticism.

A century ago Richard Wagner's opera was first staged in Russia, and paved the way for many future performances. The musical legend of Swan Night

was first produced in Petersburg. The young members of the theatre were prominent in the recent premieres. Valery Georgiyev, who conducts the orchestra, was awarded a prize in an international conductor contest in West Berlin. The leading roles are sung by Larisa Shevchenko and Konstantin Plushnikov.

German director at work in Tbilisi

Friendship show might be one way to describe the play "Kotovan-the Georgian Girl" which opened recently at Tbilisi's Shota Rustaveli Theatre. Written by Andreas Gryphius, the German dramatist, the play was produced by another German, Hermann Wedekind, from Saarbrücken in the FRG.

Working with this well-known company has been an immense pleasure, said Wedekind. I value Soviet art above all for its humanism. In his play, my compatriot, Andreas Gryphius, has resurrected a tragic page from Georgian history of the 17th century. It is about the heroism and strength displayed by the people in their struggle against foreign invaders, their striving for freedom and independence.

Such noble deeds are equally dear to all people of goodwill. I hope that this joint production will serve to further strengthen the links between our peoples. "Kotovan-the Georgian Girl" is Wedekind's fifth venture in the Georgian capital. At the Tbilisi Opera and Ballet Theatre he has produced Wagner's "Lohengrin" and "The Flying Dutchman", Mozart's "The Magic Flute" and Gounod's "Faust". Meanwhile, German directors have been at work in the theatres of Saarbrücken. Here they have produced two operas by Z. Pellys: "Dafni" and "Athenaion and Eodri". O. Taktakishvili's "Midiyev" and "Samenshivitsa-Sleepmother", the play by D. Kladashvili.

Soviet show draws Parisian crowds

French art enthusiasts recently experienced their first taste of Soviet art. On the 15th of April, the exhibition of the International Centre for the Soviet Art in Paris. The artists have closely in the footsteps of the Russian realist painters, the second half of the last century.

Two comments entered the visitors' book at the exhibition: "What a pleasure to view Russia's wonderful scenery through your eyes. Thanks for being sincere."

The Kadriorg Palace in Tallinn houses the Estonian State Art Museum with its valuable collection of paintings, drawings and sculpture, incorporating German and Dutch art and sculpture as well as works by well-known West European artists. There are altogether 30,000 items in the collection.

In the photo: Medieval masterpieces in the Culpala Hall.



Restoration of the Doma organ

The famous Doma organ in Riga, one of the largest in Europe, has remained silent for some time. Now the 360-year-old instrument is being subjected to a complete overhaul.

The organ was reconstructed and restored many times during its long life. It was badly damaged in the Great Patriotic War. Now its pipes, bellows and keyboard are in need of radical repair. A firm in the Netherlands which specializes in restoration projects of ancient organs has agreed to perform this complex task. The famous organ has 6,768 pipes—the longest 10 m and the shortest—30 centimetres.

Local specialists, led by Gunars Dalmeida, are also participating in the restoration work. After this project is completed the Doma organ will regain its unique voice sounding exactly as it did during past ages.

CARNIVAL PERFORMANCE BASED ON FAIRY TALE



"The Happy Beggar", a dazzling pageant based on Carlo Gatti's fairy tale has opened at Moscow's Stanislavsky Theatre.

The play, which upkeeps with humour and improvisation, might be termed theatrical games for adults and children alike. In the name of good and happiness its heroes embark on a struggle with the forces of evil.

The production makes use of music by Rossini, Verdi, Leoncavallo and other composers, as well as of archival recordings of the voices of Maria Callas, Tito Gobbi and Mario Del Monaco.

WHAT'S ON!

February 16-19

THEATRES

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin). Bolshoi Theatre performances: 17—Verdi, "Il Trovatore" (opera). 19—"Choreographic Masterpieces", Leningrad Ballet Company.

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 17—Prokofiev, "Ivan the Terrible" (ballet). 18—Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera). 19—Verdi, "Un ballo in maschera" (opera).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 17—Ballet, "Carmen" (opera). 18—Sidelnikov, "Stepan Razin" (ballet). 19—Oshanich, "La Belle Hélène" (opera).

FILMS

I'm Afraid (a two-part Italian production).

About the causes of organized crime and of terror and corruption in Italy. Cinema: "Novorossiysk" (47/24 Chernyshevskogo St.). Metro Kurakaya.

The Woman in White (a part production of Modern Studios).

A screen-adaptation of a popular English novel by Wilkie Collins. Cinema: "Udarnik" (20 Simoviche St.). Metro Bolshoi. Cinema: "Gorizont" (Komsomolsky Prospekt). Prunzenskaya.

EXHIBITIONS

Polltechnological Museum Novaya Sq. Entrance "Stone Rainbow". This exhibition of onyx, agate, malachite and other precious stones from the Magdalenian (Local: Lore, Vitoria) shows the various uses of these materials in industry, science and art.

Central Army Club Sports Gym (39 Leningradsky Prospekt). 16—National championship between men's teams. Central Army Club v Vilnius Sports. 7 p.m.

ATHLETICS

Krylatoye Sports Complex (Metro Molodyozhskoye). 19—Winter national championship. 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

National teams from the constituent republics, Moscow and Leningrad take part.

BANDY

Dynamo Stadium. 17—National championship. Moscow

BUSINESS

RECESSION TRENDS CAN BE CHECKED

The crisis has affected our steel industry as much as the rest of Europe. H. Apletter, Director-General of Vöest-Alpine, Austria's largest steel producer, admitted recently.

The future of the West European steel industry is determined to a large degree by its links with the socialist countries, the magazine "Weg und Ziel" claimed. The piping factory at Kindberg, belonging to Vöest-Alpine is now able to expand

owing to a Soviet order for 800 thousand tonnes of piping, the magazine continued. Over 30 per cent of Vöest-Alpine's output goes to socialist countries, a convincing testimony in favour of all-round cooperation with partners in the East. In his interview with the newspaper "Volksstimme", H. Apletter emphasized the fact that Eastern orders have helped in providing employment at a time when we are accompanied by relatively pessimistic predictions.

Books in fifty languages

Progress is the world biggest publishing house specializing in translations. Books put out by Progress are to be found in the remotest corners of the world.

Today we publish books in fifty languages, says Progress Director V. Sodykh. In the current five-year plan we hope to start issuing books in another six languages. We issue 25 million copies of books a year.

In 1982, we shall continue the publication of the 50-volume Collected Works of K. Marx and F. Engels in the English language and V. I. Lenin's Complete Works in Spanish.

This year, L. I. Brezhnev's "Recollections" will come out in English, Spanish, French, Italian and Arabic.

We offer our readers both in this country and abroad a variety of books on Soviet history, on the wide-ranging achievements of the Soviet people, and on the peaceful foreign policy pursued by the USSR.

Many books we published are specially written for Progress. Eight new titles have been commissioned for the "Impressions of the USSR" series. They will be written by authors from the Spain, Canada, Pakistan and other countries. Besides, we shall be pulling out new books in the following series: "Practice, Problems and Prospects of Socialism" and "Imperialism. Acts, Facts and Records", to mention but a few.

Contacts and contracts

© G. Merchuk, Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, met with L. Supke, Czechoslovak Minister of Technological and Investment Development. They compared notes concerning the development and implementation of national task-oriented interdisciplinary research and development programmes.

© Via Technopromimport, Complex of Hungary will supply cheese making equipment. Jugoslavina of Yugoslavia will provide four bread baking lines and Hamel-Werke of West Germany will sell equipment for the tobacco industry.

© Mashpriborintorg is selling to Konisto, Finland, a batch of instruments, including a micro-television analyzer, and liquid chromatographs, while Mitsui of Japan will be provided with a measuring microscope intended for bulky materials.

© At the 5th International Book Fair at present taking place in Delhi, Indian publishers and VAAAP (the Soviet Copyright Agency) have signed 11 contracts to publish the works of Soviet authors in India and those of Indian writers in the USSR. The "National Herald" newspaper comments on the steadily expanding Indian-Soviet relations in this field, which help strengthen friendship and understanding between the peoples of the two countries, and on the growing exchange of scientific and engineering knowledge.

public, buildings, streets and squares. Daily, except Monday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Metro Park Kultury.

Dynamo v Pervouralsk Uralsky Trubnik. 6.30 p.m.

Uralsky Trubnik is a team of Novotrubny plant.

RACING

Hippodrome (22 Begovaya St.). 17 and 19—Racing and trotting. Both days at 6 p.m.

WEATHER

February 16-19

In Moscow, city and region, changeable weather, slight snow midway through period, W and NW wind, 3-7 mps. On February 16 night temperatures —10° to —5°C, and around 0° during the day. Subsequently —15° to —10°C at night and —6° to —2°C during the day.

TRANSPORT HOURS

Metro 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks. Trolleybuses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 4 kopeks. Buses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks. Trams 5.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Taxi 24-hour service. Twenty kopeks on the meter to begin plus 20 kopeks per kilometre. Ordering a cab 24-hour service. Telephone 225-00-00. Communist cabs (over 40 routes in the city) 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 15 kopeks.

MACHINOEXPORT

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147-16-42, 143-64-68 • 411207, 411242 MCHX SU

SOVIET EXCAVATORS WORK HARD IN 50 COUNTRIES!

EKG-5A QUARRY EXCAVATOR

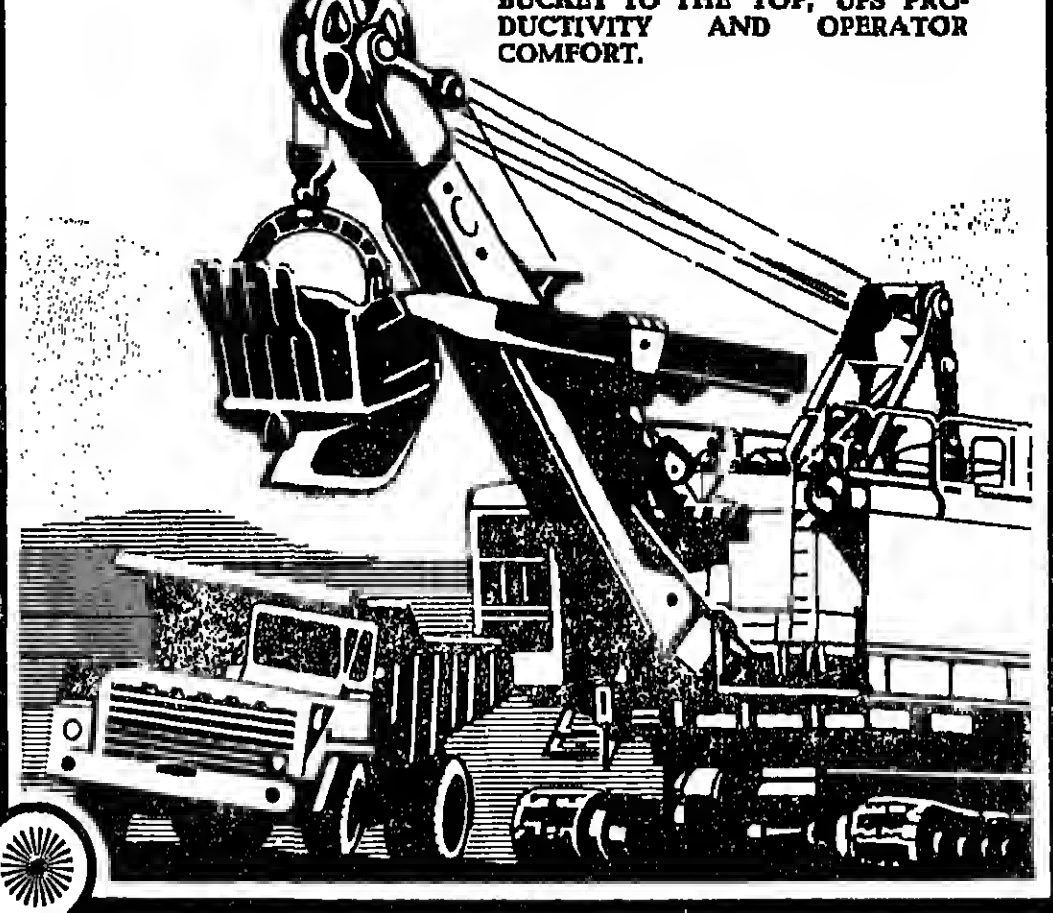
for open-cast mines and for work on large-scale building sites

BUCKET CAPACITY—5 m³

BIGGEST DIGGING RADIUS—14.5 m

RADIUS OF ROTATION OF PLATFORM TAIL END—5.25 m

WORKING MASS—196 tons



AN AUTOMATIC SYSTEM SPEEDS UP DIGGING BY FILLING THE BUCKET TO THE TOP, UPS PRODUCTIVITY AND OPERATOR COMFORT.

SUDOPIMPORT EXPANDS CONTACTS

At a recent Moscow press conference for Soviet and foreign newsmen the Director-General of V/O Sudimport, O. Kropotov, discussed his organization's operations during 1981. Trade with socialist countries has been progressing well, he noted, and accounts now for over two-thirds of Sudimport's overall trade.

Sudimport maintains long-standing relations with companies in Finland, France, the FRG, Japan, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Poland, he noted, is providing Sudimport with an extremely broad range of products. According to Finnish experts, Soviet orders create jobs for thousands of Finnish ship-building workers.

At present, Kropotov emphasized, Sudimport holds contacts with 80 countries.

JUBILEE FAIR IN SPRING

The March 14-20 annual International Leipzig Spring Fair will mark the 60th anniversary of Soviet participation in this event.

The vast Soviet display will feature over 3,000 items ranging from the latest machines, tubes and equipment to consumer goods. Various displays provide a good idea of Soviet multinational culture, Georgia

will receive the widest coverage. Special attention will be given to highlighting business and scientific international cooperation maintained by the USSR. A total of 150 exhibits will inform of the Soviet Union's participation in the CMEA comprehensive programme for socialist economic integration.

DREDGES IN ACTION

Filling a Soviet order, the Prague shipyards of Ceske Lodenice is completing the construction of another large dredge capable of extracting 2,500 tonnes of sand and gravel from river beds.

The Ceske Lodenice shipyards has for more than a quarter of a century supplied the USSR

with dredges. Most these vessels are now operating on the Volga, the Kama, the Yenisei, the Lena, the Amudarya, and the Vakhsh rivers as dredging the river beds helps improve river navigation conditions. Czechoslovak floating pumping stations irrigate the cotton plantations along the river and canal banks in the republics of Central Asia.

A journey from the Pacific Into the Atlantic

Passing through the locks of the Panama canal, which raised the ship 20 metres above sea level and then let it glide gracefully downwards, the "Latvia" entered the Atlantic. Only a few sailors can claim having sailed along this man-made waterway.

The 300 new "Latvia" passengers, who took over from an earlier group in Managua, journeyed 679 miles from the Nicaraguan port of Corinto to Panama, and left quite in their element aboard the ship.

started exactly in this manner. They stayed on the upper deck until the sun dipped below the horizon, shooting off their cameras and film and capturing for posterity this imposing and singularly beautiful man-made creation.

The 300 new "Latvia" passengers, who took over from an earlier group in Managua, journeyed 679 miles from the Nicaraguan port of Corinto to Panama, and left quite in their element aboard the ship.

Intourist news

An exciting portion of any trip is never land, and this is true for Panama, which was visited by 600 Soviet travellers in the space of only two weeks.

The tourist programme was a very busy affair, as the guests visited industrial projects, attended friendship meetings with Panamanian youth, climbed the Ancon Mountains, the highest spot in Panama, went sunbathing and undertook exciting sight-seeing tours around the city.